

HA-1813
1925
Bel Air
Private

The Wallis House, 315 E. Broadway, faces north on a wide, tree shaded lot in Ingleside. Built in 1925, the house is meant to resemble an English cottage. It is a 1 1/2 story, 3 bay, gable-roofed beige stucco structure with a red-brown roof and openings outlined in a matching color. Gabled portions add variety to the essential rectangle of the house: stoop and double gabled dormer on the facade, side porch (west) set back from the facade and carried on square posts linked by a recent square post balustrade, rear (south) shallow ell with projecting porch in the east bay. The roof line is irregular, as is the fenestration. An exterior stucco chimney, outlined in brick whose color matches the roof and surrounds, rises in the middle of the west bay of the facade.

The early 1920s saw three new additions to the Town of Bel Air: Fulford Park (1922), Ingleside (1923), and Kenmore (1924). In each case the lots were sold at auction. Ingleside was subdivided by J. Edwin Webster and named for his home to the north. Built for William and Flossie Wallis in 1925, the Wallis House is meant to resemble an English cottage. According to Laurie Wallis, wife of the present owner who is a grandson of the builders, Flossie Wallis said she got the plans from Better Homes & Gardens. The house is unique in the Bel Air survey, and its shifting gables make it one of the most visually varied houses built in Town since the Victorian era. William Wallis worked for the U.S. Postal Service. His son, Robbie Wallis, was for many years the editor of The Aegis, Bel Air's weekly newspaper. The present owner, Patrick Wallis is one of his four children.

HA-1813
Wallis House
Bel Air, Harford Co.

FRAMEWORK FOR IDENTIFYING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

3. Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period:

 x 11. Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930

 12. Modern Period 1930 - present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme:

2. Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community
Planning

Resource Type:

Category: Architecture

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Function and Use: Private Residence

Known Design Source: According to Mrs. Patrick Wallis, her
grandmother-in-law said she copied it from Better Homes & Gardens.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. 77-1010

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Wallis House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 315 E. Broadway n/a not for publication

city, town Bel Air vicinity of congressional district 3rd

state MD county Harford

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Wallis

street & number 315 E. Broadway telephone no.: 838-5723

city, town Bel Air state and zip code MD 21014

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse liber 1186

street & number folio 488

city, town Bel Air state MD 21014

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. WA-1013

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing resource count: one

The Wallis House, 315 E. Broadway, faces north on a wide, tree shaded lot. Built in 1925, the house is meant to resemble an English cottage. It is a 1 1/2 story, 3 bay, gable-roofed beige stucco structure with a red-brown roof and openings outlined in a matching color. Gabled portions add variety to the essential rectangle of the house: stoop and double gabled dormer on the facade, side porch (west) set back from the facade and carried on square posts linked by a recent square post balustrade, rear (south) shallow ell with projecting porch in the east bay. The roof line is irregular, as is the fenestration. An exterior stucco chimney, outlined in brick whose color matches the roof and surrounds, rises in the middle of the west bay of the facade. With its gabled projections on three sides and irregular window placement, this one of the most visually complex house built in Town since the Victorian period.

The visual variety of the openings shifts as one moves around the house, with no two elevations being alike. Windows are double-hung sash. The dormer has one under each gable and a smaller one linking the two. The facade has triple windows in the east bay and single windows flanking the chimney in the west bay. The center entrance is flanked by narrow, 3 pane sidelights. The west elevation has a pair of French doors leading to the porch, one set from the living room, and one set from the master bedroom. The south elevation has (reading from west to east) double, single, and double windows, the middle being smaller. The back porch had a single window in the south elevation. The east elevation has double windows, the southern pair shorter than the northern. West and south gable ends have double windows. The east gable end has a single window.

The interior is more regular and little changed. Entry is directly into the living room to the west, which has a brick fireplace with brick mantel shelf in the north wall. The dining room, reached through French doors, is to the east. A closed-string staircase with square newel and square post balustrade rises along the east wall of the living room to the rear of the dining room doors and dog-legs around the dining room wall. A transverse hall behind the staircase links the master bedroom (west) and the kitchen (east), passing the bathroom and a second bedroom, now used as a study. Original bathroom fixtures include a curious short bath tub, possibly European, with a square recessed portion near the drain. The porcelain kitchen sink with two porcelain drains and the built in cupboards flanking the sink with glass doors facing the upper shelves are also original. A small breakfast nook is to the south of the kitchen.

Upstairs are 2 bedrooms, a tiny half bath and, to the west, a large room, which leads to a "secret" room in the gable of the side porch.

8. Significance

Survey No. HA-1913

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1925 Builder/Architect unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The early 1920s saw three new additions to the Town of Bel Air: Fulford Park (1922), Ingleside (1923), and Kenmore (1924). In each case the lots were sold at auction. Ingleside was subdivided by J. Edwin Webster and named for his home to the north. Built for William and Flossie Wallis in 1925, the Wallis House is meant to resemble an English cottage. According to Laurie Wallis, wife of the present owner who is a grandson of the builders, Flossie Wallis said she got the plans from Better Homes & Gardens. The house is unique in the Bel Air survey, and its shifting gables make it more visually varied than anything built in Town since the Victorian era. William Wallis worked for the U.S. Postal Service. His son, Robbie Wallis, was for many years the editor of The Aegis, Bel Air's weekly newspaper. The present owner, Patrick Wallis is one of his four children.

Flossie Wallis lived in the house until her death. She was an enthusiastic gardener and had an extensive English cottage garden in the back yard. The grandchildren remember her wearing the pearl necklace she was never without and serving an English tea on the side porch in the summer. The house is very little changed since her time. The kitchen and bathrooms retain their original fixtures, including an odd short bath tub with a rectangular depression near the drain. It looks European. In her widowhood she rented rooms on the second floor. There are 2 bedrooms, a half bath, and another large room which held several beds, bunkhouse style. The grandchildren remember playing in the large room, and there is a small "secret" room to the west of this room. It is in the gable of the side porch. One change is a new porch balustrade, installed only because the earlier one had become unsafe.

The Patrick Wallises preserve an old picture of the house, dating perhaps from the 1920s or 1930s, showing it before the trees and shrubbery grew tall. It hangs in the downstairs hall.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. A-1413

Herford County Land Records.
Site visit, 23 April 1993.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Bel AirQuadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Parcel 391 in the Town of Bel Air, .285 acre.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	<u>Dr. Marilyn M. Larew</u>		
organization		date	<u>7-02-93</u>
street & number	<u>RD 1 Box 219 New Park Rd.</u>	telephone	<u>717-993-3557</u>
city or town	<u>New Park</u>	state	<u>PA 17352</u>

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

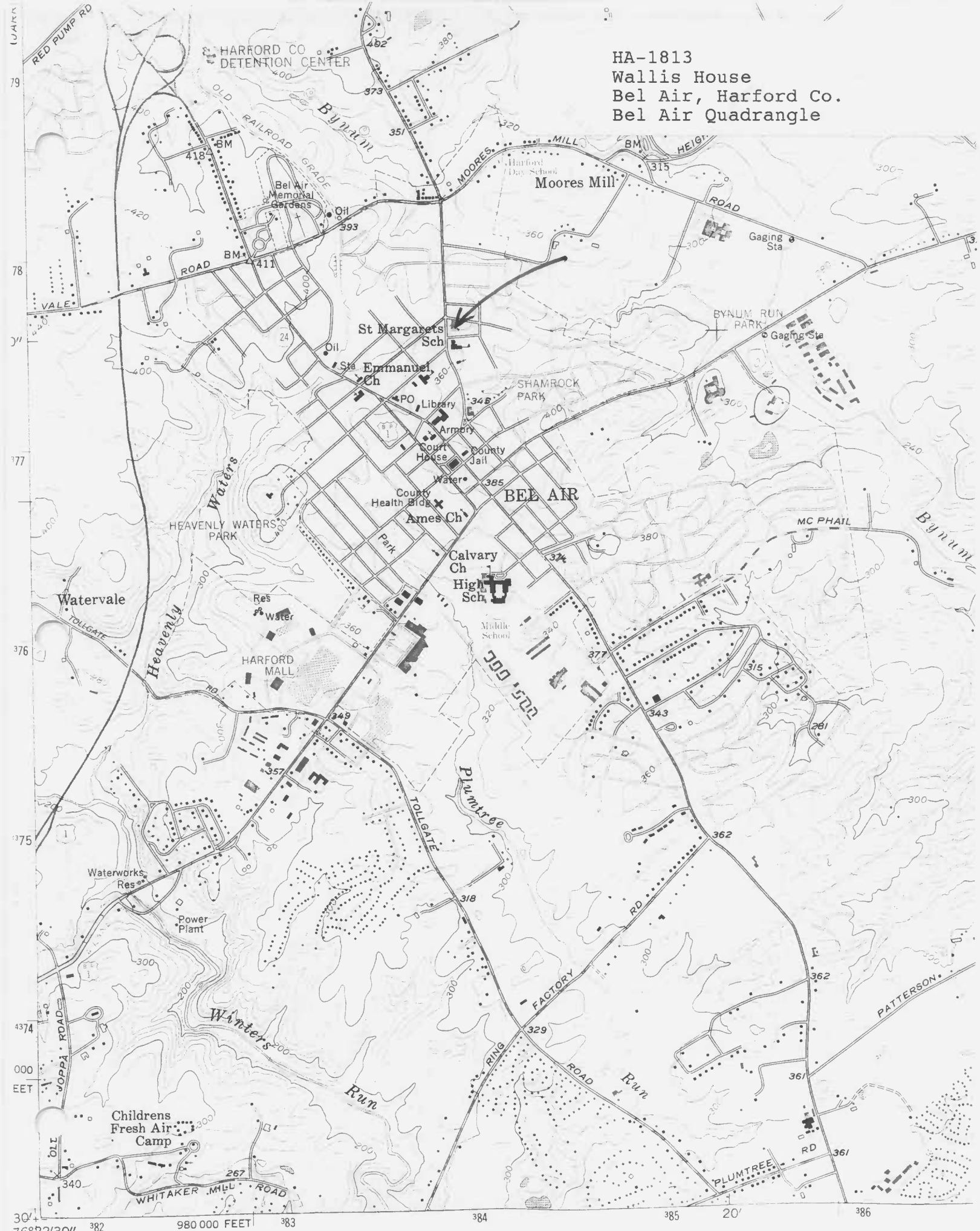
100 COMMUNITY
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-202
514-7600

HA-1813
Wallis House
315 E. Broadway
Bel Air, MD 21014

owner: Patrick Wallis

- 1186/488 29 Apr 1983
William Robert Wallis, personal representative of the
estate of Flossie H. Wallis, deceased 4 Dec 1982
to
Patrick M. Wallis and Laurie M.
\$62,000
Flossie Wallis's will = JGM 40/626
- 183/442 20 Oct 1923
Henrietta G. Rouse and C. Chapman Rouse
to
William S. Wallis and Flossie H.
lots 15-19, 61-65 in Bolck B, Ingleside
- 183/441 12 May 1923
J. Edwin Webster and Dora K.
to
The Rouses
restrictions: no house fronting on Conowingo Rd.
(Hickory) shall cost less than \$4,000 or less than
\$3,00 on other lots in Ingleside. No sales to persons
of African descent. Black servants may live there. No
commercial use for 25 years.

HA-1813
Wallis House
Bel Air, Harford Co.
Bel Air Quadrangle





44-15-2
44-15-2
44-15-2

44-15-2

5077

6. 213 X

1173

315 E. BROADWAY
BEL AIR



44-1913

WALTER GAUSE

430-0711

2/13

2/13

5-11-22-0

2/13

315 E. BROADWAY

BEL AIR



HA-1512
WFL 115 HOURS
LATERAL TO WIND
21.40 ± 10
22.5
24.7
24.5 ± 1.0
3.43

315 E. BROADWAY
BEL AIR